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A.D. 1806 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 2954.

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JAMES RAWLINSON.

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TRUSSES.

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L O N D O N :

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## Trusses.

### RAWLINSON'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JAMES RAWLINSON, of Derby, in the County of Derby, Gentleman, do send greeting.

WHEREAS His most Excellent Majesty King George the Third, by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the First day of August, in the forty-sixth year of His reign, did give and grant unto me, the said James Rawlinson, my exors, admors, and assigns, His especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority, that I, the said James Rawlinson, my exors, admors, and assigns, during the term of years therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and also in all His Colonies and Plantations abroad, my Invention of "CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUSES COMMONLY MADE USE OF AS TRUSSES OR BANDAGES FOR RUPTURES AND VARIOUS OTHER PURPOSES;" in which said Letters Patent there is contained a proviso obliging me, the said James Rawlinson, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, to cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be inrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery within one calendar month next and immediately after the date of the said recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, relation thereunto being had, may more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said James Rawlinson, do hereby declare that my said Invention, and the manner



*Rawlinson's Improvements in Trusses.*

in which the same is to be carried into effect and practice, are described in manner and form following, that is to say :—

Instead of metallic springs heretofore used I do make use of the caoutchouc commonly called indian rubber, to be cut, cast, moulded, or formed into such sizes, forms, and of such strengths as the nature of the case may require, that 5 is to say, for children the said springs are required to be thinner and weaker than for adults and obstinate cases, and to be placed on the hips, pad, or any other part of the truss, according as the case may require, by tying, binding, and sewing, &c., or fastening in any convenient way, the said caoutchouc springs to pieces of leather or any other fitting or proper material of such 10 forms and strength as the nature of the case may require. The pad or part which covers the ruptured part, or place where the rupture is disposed to protrude, I make of caoutchouc, leather, wood, iron or steel, or any other fitting material of such form as the case may require, over or to which I affix a spring of caoutchouc of a form and strength proper for the case, that is, 15 the said spring to be stronger or weaker according to the abstinancy of the case and the resistance required. The thigh strap or straps have also springs of caoutchouc affixed to them near to their fastening with the part of the truss that surrounds the body, or at the pad, as the case may require ; for double trusses, or cases where both sides are ruptured, the strength 20 of the respective caoutchouc springs must be regulated according to the resistance required. I also cover all the said springs with a loose covering or case of oil'd silk or some other proper nonconducting substance, to keep the heat of the body from relaxing or injuring the said springs, but so as not to impede their operation. And I do also cover the whole of the truss or apparatus 25 with leather or other soft material, as is usually done, to render the wear, &c. more easy and agreeable. In very obstinate and dangerous cases I add braces or cross straps to fasten by buttons, hooks, or other convenient fastenings, at the hips or other convenient place, to the upper part of the truss that surrounds the body, and to the pad or pads, and which passes over the shoulders in the 30 manner of common braces, and to which cross straps I affix springs of caoutchouc, one near the end of each strap, and which said springs are fixed to their respective straps in the manner as before described, and to have cases or covers of a nonconducting substance over them, as before directed ; or I apply the common elastic braces now in use. These braces are intended, with 35 the thigh straps, to prevent the pad from moving from its proper place, and may or may not be used. And I do also describe my suspensory bandages as follows :—

I cause the addition of springs cut, cast, moulded, or formed from the caoutchouc or indian rubber into such sizes, forms, and of such strength 40



*Rawlinson's Improvements in Trusses.*

as the nature of the cases may require, that is to say, if the said suspensory bandages are required for great exertions, such as hunting, playing at tennis, rackets, or any other violent exercise, the said springs I cause to be stronger and in longer lengths than for the more moderate purposes of suspensory  
 5 bandages for hydrocele or swelled testicles, &c. &c. The said springs I do affix by tying, binding, sewing, or confining in other proper and convenient way to the bandages and straps of linen, leather, silk, or other fitting and proper material, at the hips or other proper place, as the case may require, and the springs of the thigh straps are also affixed in the manner as before  
 10 described, near the ends of the said straps, where they are suspended to the bandage that surrounds the body; and these springs of caoutchouc I first unite, as before described, to a piece of leather, or any other fitting or proper material at each end; and I have oilet holes worked, or tapes fixed, or buttons, hooks and eyes, &c., which have their corresponding fastenings at the other  
 15 ends of the bandages and straps, for the purposes of easily separating the said springs from the other parts of the bandages in order to the more convenient washing of the said bandages.

And lastly, I do cause the said springs to be covered with oil'd silk or some other fit nonconducting substance, in order to prevent the heat of the body  
 20 from relaxing or injuring the said springs.

In witness whereof, I, the said James Rawlinson, have hereunto set my hand and seal, the Twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and six.

JA<sup>S</sup> RAWLINSON. (L.S.)

25 **AND BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on the Twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord 1806, the aforesaid James Rawlinson came before our said Lord the King in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified, in form  
 above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamp't according to  
 30 the tenor of the Statute made for that purpose.

Inrolled the Twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and six.

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